

a² 3. (Amended) The contrast enhancing device of claim 2, wherein said contrast control portion comprises:

a contrast control plate for controlling an amount of light scanned from said LCD panel;

and

a contrast controller for generating a contrast control signal for controlling the degree of the opening and closing of said contrast control plate according to the ABL control signal.

a³ 5. (Amended) The contrast enhancing device of claim 3, wherein said contrast control plate is an LCD.

a⁴ 7. (Amended) The contrast enhancing device of claim 3, wherein said contrast controller applies the contrast control signal for controlling said contrast control plate to be closed in correspondence to a difference value if the average level of the image signal is lower than the reference level, or controlling said contrast control plate to be opened in correspondence to a difference value if the average level of the image signal is higher than the reference level.